

**“LIGHTING HIS WAY HOME”:
PASTORAL CONVERSATIONS WITH
A MISSING CHILD’S MOTHER**

by

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I declare that **'Lighting his way home": Pastoral conversations with a missing child's mother** is my own work and that all the sources that I have used or quoted have been indicated and acknowledged by means of complete references.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A M Brink', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

(A M Brink)

23 June 2004

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abstract

Missing children is one of the horrors that we are confronted with in today's society. The case study method, a feminist co-search methodology, is used to give a missing child's mother the opportunity to tell and re-tell the painful story. During this co-search process the following aspects of doing ethics and pastoral care and counselling *with* the mother are constantly negotiated. The term "missing child" is defined and the relevance between the distinction of "missing children" and "run-away children" is discussed. Furthermore, this study explores the many diverse practices of narrative pastoral care and counselling *with* parents of missing children within an economically disadvantaged community. The conceptualisations regarding loss, hope and meaning-making and how these are utilised in the life of a missing child's mother is discussed.

Key words:

missing children, feminist case study method, Michel Foucault, Jacques Derrida, post structuralism, social constructionism, feminist theology, narrative pastoral care, loss, meaning-making, hope.

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***...for Michelle,
who continues to hope ...***



***Matthew Michael Ohlsson
24-02-1988 - ?***

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DECLARATION

ABSTRACT

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